

**SENATE, No. 146**

---

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**220th LEGISLATURE**

---

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Assemblywoman SHAMA A. HAIDER**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Assemblywoman ELLEN J. PARK**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

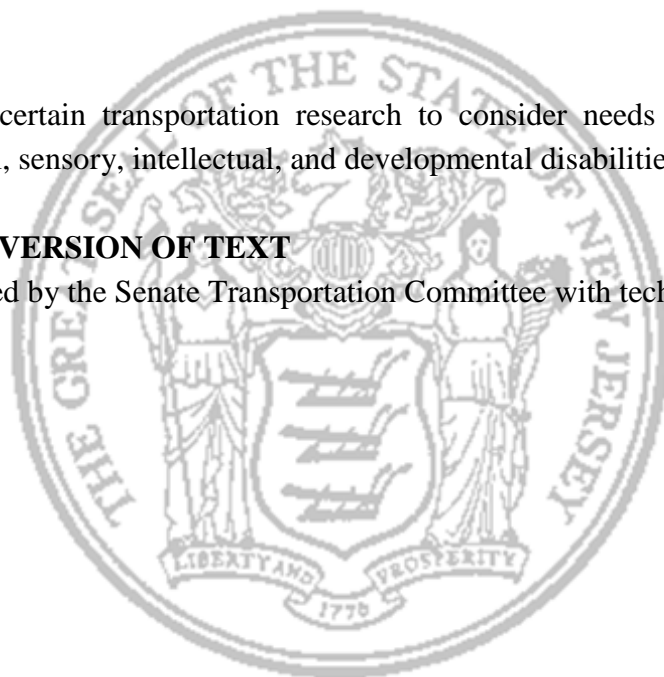
**Senators Lagana, Gill, Holzapfel, Durr, Madden, O'Scanlon,**  
**Assemblywomen Eulner, Piperno, Matsikoudis, Murphy, Lampitt and**  
**Sawyer**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires certain transportation research to consider needs of individuals with physical, sensory, intellectual, and developmental disabilities.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Transportation Committee with technical review.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/30/2023)**

1 AN ACT concerning transportation research and amending  
2 P.L.2019, c.196.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 4 of P.L.2019, c.196 (C.27:1B-21.36) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 4. a. **【There is hereby established within the Department of**  
10 **Transportation, the】** The New Jersey Transportation Research  
11 **【Center】** Bureau within the Department of Transportation,  
12 hereinafter referred to as the **【center】** bureau, shall serve as a  
13 transportation research center for the State.

14 b. The **【center** shall be located within the Department of  
15 Transportation, and the center**】** bureau shall award research  
16 contracts to New Jersey public research institutions of higher  
17 education to conduct the research activities of the **【center】** bureau.  
18 The award of those research contracts shall be subject to all relevant  
19 existing State and federally established public bidding regulations  
20 and processes.

21 c. The **【center】** bureau shall identify specific areas of  
22 transportation expertise for New Jersey public research institutions  
23 of higher education, where all research undertaken by the **【center】**  
24 bureau in that area of expertise is to occur, and shall be subject to  
25 all relevant existing State and federally established public bidding  
26 regulations and processes.

27 d. The Commissioner of Transportation shall appoint a  
28 **【director】** manager for the **【center】** bureau. The duties of the  
29 **【director】** manager shall include but not be limited to:

30 (1) Administering and operating the **【center】** bureau;  
31 (2) Overseeing research undertaken by the **【center】** bureau;  
32 (3) Establishing and maintaining relationships with New Jersey  
33 public research institutions of higher education;  
34 (4) Supporting New Jersey public research institutions of higher  
35 education in obtaining and maintaining University Transportation  
36 Center status under the United States Department of Transportation  
37 Federal Highway Administration's University Transportation Center  
38 Program; and

39 (5) Authorizing competitive bidding for research contracts to  
40 include entities in addition to New Jersey public research  
41 institutions of higher education, notwithstanding the provisions of  
42 subsections b. and c. of this section to the contrary, after making a  
43 written determination that the department stands to benefit from  
44 additional competition in terms of quality of work product,

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 timeliness of work product delivery, or availability of expertise in  
2 one or more specific transportation areas.

3 e. Any contract entered into pursuant to this section shall  
4 include a provision that requires research conducted under the  
5 contract to consider the transportation and mobility needs of New  
6 Jersey residents with physical, sensory, intellectual, and  
7 developmental disabilities.

8 f. For purposes of this section, "entities" means an entity that  
9 is organized as a non-profit organization. "Entities" shall not  
10 include a municipal planning organization or a municipal planning  
11 organization-related entity, regardless of whether it is organized as  
12 a non-profit organization.  
13 (cf: P.L.2019, c.196, s.4)  
14

15 2. This act shall take effect immediately.